

OSAC RESEARCH NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORM



Title of research need:

Describe the need:

In order to be aware of ongoing research and plan for additional studies, the fire investigation community must be aware of that research. The Technical Committee charged with writing NFPA 921 works to include references to research in that document. Since the document is updated on a three-year cycle, references to new research is likely not included in that document. Federally funded research is reported in a variety of ways and can be found (many times not easily) in various online and printed sources. There should be a single on-line repository easily accessible to fire investigators where this research can be found. This research need is to create an easily accessible repository for research on fire investigation. The repository will help to encourage and target research by finding needs and gaps. Funding is needed facilitate and develop such a repository.

Keyword(s):

Submitting subcommittee(s): **Date Approved:**

(If SAC review identifies additional subcommittees, add them to the box above.)

Background Information:

1. Does this research need address a gap(s) in a current or planned standard? (ex.: Field identification system for on scene opioid detection and confirmation)

2. Are you aware of any ongoing research that may address this research need that has not yet been published (e.g., research presented in conference proceedings, studies that you or a colleague have participated in but have yet to be published)?

3. Key bibliographic references relating to this research need: (ex.: Toll, L., Standifer, K. M., Massotte, D., eds. (2019). Current Topics in Opioid Research. Lausanne: Frontiers Media SA. doi: 10.3389/978-2-88963-180-3)

4. Review the annual operational/research needs published by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) at <https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/forensic-science-research-and-development-technology-working-group-operational#latest>? Is your research need identified by NIJ?

5. In what ways would the research results improve current laboratory capabilities?

This research need is targeted to improve current fire investigation field work rather than laboratory analyses. Fire investigators do not typically follow the current state of fire dynamics research as those findings are published in the scientific literature. This repository would provide a single location to access those research findings thus improving the ability for fire investigators to put that research into practice.

6. In what ways would the research results improve understanding of the scientific basis for the subcommittee(s)?

See Number 5.

7. In what ways would the research results improve services to the criminal justice system?

This research will help to educate the fire investigation community on the current state of research and knowledge in the field.

8. Status assessment (I, II, III, or IV):

I

	Major gap in current knowledge	Minor gap in current knowledge
No or limited current research is being conducted	I	III
Existing current research is being conducted	II	IV

This research need has been identified by one or more subcommittees of OSAC and is being provided as an informational resource to the community.